

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following replacement paragraph.

[0044] The above-described process is illustrative of one embodiment of a cathode that is directly heated. For indirectly heated cathodes, there are numerous embodiments that can be employed. For example, an additional insulating layer 316a and an additional conducting layer 315a can be established on the conductive layer 315, or conductive layers 316 and 315, together as the indirectly heated cathode. In such an embodiment, the conductive layer 315 or the both conductive layers 316 and 315 together function as the heater for the cathode. Electron emission materials, in this case, will be deposited on top of the cathode conductor. As of the conductor being bonded on the surface of the insulating substrate of ceramics, glasses, etc., this suspended conducting layer can be used as either the heater conductor or the cathode conductor depending on the manufacturing processes and applications of the devices. Subsequent buildup of either the heater or the cathode will follow accordingly.